



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON
DISABILITIES
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
<http://laccod.org>**

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

1:00 PM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (15-5058)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Call to Order. (15-4899)

President Carlos Benavides called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

**Commissioner Rosa Maria Chaturvedi joined the meeting at 1:15 p.m. and
2nd Vice President Wendy Welt Narro at 1:20 p.m., respectively.**

Present: President Carlos Benavides, 1st Vice President Janet A. Neal,
2nd Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, Commissioner Allan
Buck, Commissioner Edward A. Colley, Commissioner Rosa
Maria Chaturvedi, Commissioner John R. James, Commissioner
Steve Miller, Commissioner Peggie Reyna and Commissioner
John B. Troost

Absent: Treasurer Lourdes Caracoza, Commissioner Maria
Mustelier-Parrish, Commissioner Hector Ochoa, Commissioner
Dee Pinchbeck, Commissioner Sheila D. Wright and
Commissioner Wan Chun Chang

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of September 16, 2015. (15-4350)

**On motion of Commissioner John B. Troost, seconded by 1st Vice
President Janet A. Neal, and unanimously carried, this item was approved.**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Receive and File the monthly METRO Accessibility Report presented by Yvonne Price, Accessibility Programs Administrator for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO). (Continued from the meeting on September 16, 2015) (15-4377)

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued without discussion to the meeting of November 18, 2015.

3. Access Services Incorporated report by Louis Burns, Access Services Customer Support Administrator. (15-4902)

Louis Burns provided an update of the proposed fare increase set for Implementation, January 2016.

Commissioners Steve Miller, John James, Allan Buck, Rosa Maria Chaturvedi and 1st Vice President Janet Neal addressed their concerns regarding the fare rate change.

Daniel Garcia and Waya El, members of the public, addressed the Commission.

After discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

III. PRESENTATION

4. Presentation by the Department of Public Social Services, on its responsibilities and/or direct services that substantially impact the lives of people with disabilities, as requested by the Commission.

- Silvia Valencia, Director, CalWORKs Program
- Regina Adkins-Williams, Director GR - SSI Special Programs Section
- Maria Magallanes, HSA II, IHSS Program
- Estela Barrera, HSA II, CalFresh Program
- Sherise McDowell-English, Human Resources Division
- Charles Palmer, ASM III, Civil Rights Section (15-4900)

Silvia Valencia reported on California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKS) Program. CalWORKS provides cash aid each month to eligible families with a child or a pregnant woman to help pay for housing, food and other necessary expenses. It also provides employment services and includes a disability deprivation criteria for parents with a physical and mental illness, when the illness reduces or eliminates the parent's ability to support or care for an eligible child.

The CalWORK GAIN Program provides employment-related services to CalWORKS Welfare-to-Work participants to help them find employment; stay employed; and move on to better jobs.

Regina Adkins-Williams reported on General Relief (GR) and Cash Program for Immigrants (CAPI). The GR cash service allocates \$221 per month to indigent adults who do not qualify for State or Federal public assistance programs. The program includes emergency temporary housing, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) advocacy service, and substance abuse treatment. There are housing subsidy referrals to assist homeless GR participants with rent up to \$500. The CAPI Program assists in three ways: (1) cash benefits to aged, blind, or disabled legal immigrants of 100% of the State-funded program; (2) grants that are \$10 less than SSI payment standard for an individual; (3) \$20 less for a couple. General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) Program provide welfare to work services for employable indigent adults, and disabled volunteers. GROW also provides mental health services at any time during the individual's nine-month GROW eligibility.

Estela Barrera reported on CalFresh Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). CalFresh Nutrition Program is the first line of defense against hunger that promotes the general welfare and safeguards the health and well-being of low-income households by raising their level of nutrition. CalFresh participants purchase food using electronic benefit transfer cards. The Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) provides participants with a variety of low-cost prepared meal choices, improve the lives of elderly, disabled and homeless CalFresh participants to promote health eating habits.

Maria Magallanes reported on In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program that help pay for basic in-home care services provided to aged, blind or disabled individuals so that they may remain safe in their own home. It is an alternative to out-of-home care such as nursing homes or board and care facilities. To receive IHSS, one must be 65 years of age or older, disabled, blind or have a disabled child. Provisions include housecleaning, meal preparation, laundry, grocery shopping, personal care services, protective supervision, and accompaniment to medical appointments. She explained that the Medi-Cal Program is a public insurance health care program which provides health care services for low-income individuals and families who meet defined eligibility requirements. It also includes outpatient services, maternity and newborn care, primary and specialty care, emergency and mental health services.

Charles Palmer provided an overview of the Civil Rights complaints process that include disability as a protected category which involves an investigation process, reporting and implementation of corrective actions.

President Carlos Benavides, 1st Vice President Janet Neal, 2nd Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, Commissioners Rosa Chaturvedi and Steve Miller provided comments about each program.

Daniel Garcia, Alexia Teran and Genevieve Clavreul, members of the public, addressed the Commission.

After their presentation, Silvia Valencia, Regina Adkins-Williams, Estela Barrera, Maria Magallanes and Charles Palmer responded to questions posed by the Commission and members of the public.

President Carlos Benavides thanked the speakers and requested the Department provide the Commission with a liaison who can address future concerns that may arise during Commission meetings.

After discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

IV. REPORTS

- 5.** President Report for October 2015. (15-4904)

President Carlos Benavides spoke about the overwhelming success of the 24th Annual Access Awards Luncheon. He thanked everyone who helped tirelessly to prepare for the event as well as the support of the Community to make this year's event a success. He looked forward to the future events and collaboration with community partners.

- 6.** Discussion to form a Committee to look at the severity of inadequate care for the Developmentally Disabled community, as recommended by Commissioner Steve Miller at the meeting of September 16, 2015. (15-4472)

Commissioner Steve Miller provided an overview of the need for adequate care for the developmentally disabled community. During discussion, Commissioner Miller made a motion, seconded by 1st Vice

President Janet Neal that an Ad-Hoc Committee be formed to address the needs of Los Angeles County residents with developmental disabilities.

Genevieve Clavreul, member of the public, addressed the Commission.

After discussion, 1st Vice President Janet A. Neal made a substitute motion to create a Standing Committee to address the developmentally disabled and have Commissioner Miller Chair the Committee.

Therefore, on motion of 1st Vice President Janet Neal, seconded by Commissioner Steve Miller, there being no objection, a Policy Committee was formed to review and develop an understanding of the impact of diminishing State funding on the lives of LA County residents with developmental disabilities. Commissioner Miller will lead this Committee and inform staff at a later date if the Policy Committee should remain a Standing Committee with his first meeting and those members that will be participating.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 7. Discussion and possible action on Standing (Education, Transportation, Housing, Media, Recreation/Access), Event Committee and Proposed Ad-Hoc Committees for 2016 as requested by President Benavides. (15-4910)**

President Carlos Benavides asked Commissioners on the status of their participation to address their District concerns within a Standing or proposed Ad-Hoc Committee.

During discussion, the following Committees and members were formed:

- TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**
1st Vice President Janet Neal, Chair
Rosa Maria Chaturvedi, Member
- HOUSING COMMITTEE**
2nd Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, Chair
Commissioner Allan Buck, Member
Commissioner Peggie Reyna, Member
- POLICY COMMITTEE**
Commissioner Steve Miller, Chair
Commissioner Allan Buck, Member

A determination of members for the remaining Standing Committees

(Media, Education, Recreation/Access) and possible Ad-Hoc Committees will be finalized at the November 18, 2015 meeting.

Genevieve Clavreul, member of the public, addressed the Commission.

After discussion, on motion of President Carlos Benavides, and by Common Consent, there being no objection, the aforementioned Committees were formed.

- 8. Receive and file the Access Services, Incorporated Board of Directors meeting report for October 2015. (15-4905)**

Commissioner John Troost provided his written report on Access Services Board meeting.

After discussion, and by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 9. Discussion on possible collaboration with the Los Angeles City Department on Disability. (15-4390)**

John Rodriguez of the City of Los Angeles Department on Disability provided an update report on level sidewalks, blue curbs.

President Carlos Benavides and 2nd Vice President Wendy Welt Narro requested clarification on why the City of Los Angeles was reporting before the Commission when the request was for collaboration.

1st Vice President Neal stated the City of Los Angeles has several projects that the Commission could collaborate with. She added his reports were to show what the City of Los Angeles is doing to address concerns of the disabled community.

Daniel Garcia, member of the public addressed the Commission.

After discussion, on motion of President Carlos Benavides, seconded by 2nd Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, the City of Los Angeles, Department on Disability was requested to provide a detailed report of the proposed collaboration at the meeting of November 18, 2015 meeting.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued.

10. Commissioner Announcements. (15-4906)

1st Vice President Janet Neal thanked the staff for their efforts at the 24th Annual Access Awards Luncheon.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.

V. MISCELLANEOUS**Matters Not Posted**

- 11. Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested), placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the authority, of matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (15-4597)**

No matters posted.

Public Comment

- 12. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (15-4907)**

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

Adjournment

- 13. Adjournment for the meeting of September 16, 2015. (15-4908)**

On motion of Commissioner Steve Miller, seconded by Commissioner Ed Colley, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.